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The University of Montana

NEWS RELEASE

University Communications
Missoula, MT 59812
(406) 243-2522

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Jan. 9, 1996

MONTECH GRANT GOES TO ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY CO-OP

MISSOULA --

Summit Independent Living Center in Missoula, which serves seven western Montana counties, has received a grant from The University of Montana's MonTECH program to help people with disabilities and their families get the useful technology and services they need to lead more independent lifestyles.

The \$37,000 will provide services to Montanans in Flathead, Lake, Lincoln, Mineral, Missoula, Ravalli and Sanders counties. For more information, call Summit at (800) 398-9002.

Western Montanans will also benefit from a \$37,000 MonTECH grant to Parents, Let's Unite for Kids, based in Billings. PLUK serves all of Montana, providing information on adaptive computer systems and high-tech assistive technology services. For more information, call PLUK at (800) 222-7585.

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Contact: Peter Leech at MonTECH, (406) 243-4597.

BL/tb

Specialized western papers, Tobacco Valley News
ACATsumt.rl

Monday's march will end at the University Center Atrium, where AASA President Betty Gregory will lead a 5:30 p.m. vigil that features brief comments from James Flightner, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and Missoula Mayor Dan Kemmis, and solos by Stephen Kalm, assistant professor of music. A film of King's "I Have a Dream" speech will be shown on big-screen television before participants march through campus with lighted candles to end the vigil, which will last about an hour.

The movie "The Long Walk Home," starring Whoopi Goldberg and Sissy Spacek, will be shown at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 17, in UM's Urey Lecture Hall. Set in the 1950s South, the movie depicts the relationship between an affluent woman and her maid during the Montgomery bus boycott led by King.

On Wednesday, Cook will present "America's Continuing Racial Dilemma: Hope and Despair," at 8 p.m. in Urey Lecture Hall as part of this year's President's Lecture Series. Cook was the first black professor at Duke University, where he taught political science from 1966 to 1974 and became the first black to hold a regular faculty appointment at any predominantly white college or university in the South.

Under Cook's leadership, Dillard University has established the National Center for Black-Jewish Relations to help bridge the gap that has opened between the Jewish and Black communities, said Michael Mayer, UM associate professor of history and a former student of Cook's at Duke.

"He's a national figure of real importance as well as real substance," said Mayer. "He was part of the civil rights movement and in many ways still lives the dream and is giving back to his

own community and the nation. He's a stellar example of the kinds of things we should be thinking about on the King holiday."

Friday's concert by Samite of Uganda will cap the week's events at 8 p.m. in the University Center Ballroom. A political refugee who came to the United States in 1987, Samite plays melodies of his homeland on a traditional flute and sings in his native language, accompanied by percussionist Kweyao Agyapon from Barbados.

"I suppose the first and most important role my music can play is to lift people's spirits, to comfort those who need comforting and to soften those who feel anger or are violent, helping them to feel good about themselves and others around them," Samite said.

UM's celebration of King's legacy will continue into February, Black History Month, with two separate essay contests for undergraduate UM students and Missoula-area high school students.

The week's events and the essay contests are sponsored by the Martin Luther King Day Committee and the UM Excellence Fund. Samite's concert also is sponsored by UM's UC/ASUM Programming, Diversity Advisory Council, Native American Studies, Office of International Programs and Departments of Anthropology and Foreign Languages and Literatures.

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